Pamela Cashwell serves as Senior Policy Advisor and Chief Deputy Secretary for Professional Standards, Policy and Planning at the Department of Public Safety. In this role, Cashwell oversees the Office of Special Investigations, Internal Audit, Private Protective Services, and Policy and Strategic Planning.

Cashwell formerly served as assistant director at the State Ethics Commission where she supervised staff attorneys and administrative staff; provided legal representation; strategic and budget planning; legislative outreach; handled policy and legal questions; and many other duties.

The North Carolina native also has held many legal positions to include senior staff attorney, NC Institute for Constitutional Law; trial attorney and attorney advisor in the Civil Rights Division, U.S. Department of Justice; and special assistant United States attorney for the Eastern District, Virginia.

Cashwell holds a juris doctor from the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill School of Law and a bachelor's in economics also from UNC-Chapel Hill. She has long been an advocate for American Indian and women's issues and currently serves on the University's Alumni Committee on Racial and Ethnic Diversity and Women's Leadership Council. She was appointed by Governor Cooper to serve on the Human Trafficking Commission.